

Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
Registered Veterinary Technician Committee (RVTC)
Proposed Regulatory Amendments
January 16, 2007

1. Section 2021 (g), California Code of Regulations is amended to read:

Section 2021. Temporary License – Definitions.

Subsection (g) A "qualifying internship or residency program," within the meaning of section 4848.3 shall mean that the program undergoes annual evaluation and has been approved by the California Veterinary Medical Association ("CVMA") in accordance with its publication entitled "Internship and Residency Approval Program" dated ~~July 8, 1999~~ April 10, 2007. If an evaluation results in the withdrawal of approval by the CVMA, the internship or residency program shall no longer be deemed to be a qualifying internship or residency program.

2. Sections 2067 and 2068 are deleted from the California Code of Regulations, Article 6:

~~2067. Practical Experience—Two-Year Curriculum Equivalent.~~

~~As the equivalent of "a two-year curriculum in animal health technology" described in Section 4841.5 of the code, any applicant who is a graduate of a two-year curriculum in animal health technology which is not accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association, Registered Veterinary Technician Accrediting Committee or otherwise approved by the board shall obtain a minimum of eighteen (18) months of practical experience under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian who shall attest to the completion of that experience at the time application is made to the board for registration to be eligible for the registered veterinary technician examination.~~

~~2068. Practical Experience—Advanced Degrees As Equivalent Curriculum.~~

~~(a) As the equivalent of "a two-year curriculum in animal health technology" as described in Section 4841.5 of the code, any applicant who receives a Bachelor of Science degree in a field or major related to animal health technology, including but not limited to animal husbandry, biology, chemistry, or biochemistry shall obtain a minimum of twelve (12) months of practical experience under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian who shall attest to the completion of that experience at the time application is made to the board for registration to be eligible for the registered veterinary technician examination.~~

3. Section 2068.5, California Code of Regulations, Article 6, is amended to read:

2068.5. Postsecondary Education and Practical Experience As Equivalent Curriculum.

In lieu of a two-year curriculum in animal health technology, completion of a combination of practical experience and education in compliance with the following criteria is deemed to be "the equivalent thereof as determined by the board" pursuant to Section 4841.5 of the code:

- (a) The education shall consist of a total of 20 semester units, 30 quarter units, or 300 hours of instruction. The education shall be provided by a postsecondary academic institution or a qualified instructor as defined by Section 2068.5(e). The education shall be accumulated in the fundamentals and principles of all of the following subjects:
 - (1) Dental prophylaxis and extraction.
 - (2) Anesthetic instrumentation, induction and monitoring.
 - (3) Surgical nursing and assisting, including instrumentation, suturing techniques, intravascular catheter placement and application of casts and splints.
 - (4) Radiography and radiation safety.
 - (5) Diseases and nursing of animals, including zoonotic diseases and emergency veterinary care.
- (b) The education shall include instruction in chemistry, mathematics, biology, microbiology, anatomy and physiology, and medical terminology, or these subjects may be obtained as separate courses.
- (c) All educational requirements in subsection (a) shall have been completed by the applicant within five (5) years prior to the date of the examination for registration as a registered veterinary technician.
- (d) Interactive distance-learning shall be accepted if the course meets all the criteria listed in this section and the candidate achieves a documented passing score on the course final examination.

- (e) The candidate shall provide the board with a syllabus or an outline for each course. The candidate shall provide documentation of attendance for each course in the form of one of the following:
- (1) a certificate of attendance,
 - (2) an official transcript, or
 - (3) a letter on official stationery signed by the course instructor documenting that the candidate attended a particular course.
- (f)(1) In order for education to be approved for qualification under Section 2068.5, the instructor must meet at least two of the following minimum requirements:
- (A) A license, registration, or certificate in an area related to the subject matter of the course. The license, registration, or certificate shall be current, valid, and free from restrictions due to disciplinary action by this board or any other health care regulatory agency;
 - (B) A master's or higher degree from an educational institution in an area related to the subject matter of the course;
 - (C) Training, certification, or experience in teaching the subject matter of the course; or
 - (D) At least two years' experience in an area related to the subject matter of the course.
- (2) The instructor shall provide each participant with a course syllabus or detailed outline which includes a description of the material covered.
- (g) ~~The practical experience~~ directed clinical practice shall consist of ~~thirty-six (36) months of experience (4,680 hours)~~ at least 4476 hours, completed in no less than 24 months directed clinical practice under the direct supervision of a California-licensed veterinarian who shall attest to the completion of that experience at the time the application is made to the board for the registered veterinary technician examination. This experience shall have been completed by the applicant within five (5) years prior to the date of the examination for registration as a registered veterinary technician.
- (h) ~~The practical experience~~ direct clinical practice required in subsection (e g) shall have provided the applicant with knowledge, skills, and abilities in the areas of communication with clients, patient examinations, emergency procedures, laboratory procedures, diagnostic imaging, surgical assisting, anesthesia, animal nursing, nutrition, dentistry, animal behavior, and pharmacology. The supervising veterinarian(s) shall complete a checklist attesting to proficiency in specific skill areas within the preceding categories.

4. Section 2068.6, California Code of Regulations, Article 6, is amended to read:

2068.6. Practical Experience—Out of State Registration As Equivalent Curriculum.

In lieu of a two-year curriculum in registered veterinary technology, an applicant shall be eligible for the registered veterinary technician examination provided such applicant meets the following requirements:

- (a) The applicant is licensed, certified, or registered as a registered veterinary technician in one or more states in which the board has determined that he or she has taken a licensing examination(s) equivalent to the written examination last given in California and has achieved a score on the examination(s) at least equal to the score required to pass the California examination.
- (b) The applicant has obtained ~~36 months (4,680 hours) of practical experience~~ at least 4476 hours, completed in no less than 24 months, of directed clinical practice, under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian licensed in the United States, Canada or U.S. territory.
- (c) The directed clinical practice shall have provided the applicant with knowledge, skills and abilities in the areas of communication with clients, patient examinations, emergency procedures, laboratory procedures, diagnostic imaging, surgical assisting, anesthesia, animal nursing, nutrition, dentistry, animal behavior and pharmacology. The supervising veterinarian(s) shall complete a check list attesting to proficiency in specific skill areas within the preceding categories.
- (d) The board determines that no disciplinary action has been taken against the applicant by any public agency concerned with the practice of animal health care and that the applicant has not been the subject of adverse civil or criminal judgments resulting from the practice of animal health care which the board determines constitutes evidence of a pattern of incompetence or negligence.